
A

TREATISE
OF THE
Nature and Use
OF THE
Bitter Purging Salt.

A 2

INTRODUCTION

1920-1921

THE BOSTONIAN

1899-1900

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TREATISE
OF THE
NATURE and USE
OF THE
Bitter Purging Salt.

Easily known from all Counter-
feits by its Bitter Taste.

Written Originally in Latin, by *Ne-
hemiah Grew*, Doctor in Physick,
Fellow of the College of Physicians
and of the Royal Society.

And done into English.

London, Printed in the Year 1700.

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Tractatum hunc, cui Titulus, *De Salis
Cathartici amari, in Aquis Ebessha-
menibus, & hujusmodi aliis contenti, Naturâ
Uso*; Authore Nehemia Grew, M. D. Re-
alis Collegii Medicorum *Londinensium*, &
Regiae Societatis Socio, dignum judicamus
i*u*ni imprimatur :

Sum ex Ædibus
Collegii nostri in
Comitiis Censo-
riis, Maii 3. 1695.

Johannes Lawson, Præses.
Samuel Collins
Rich. Torless
Edv. Tyson -
Mart. Lister } Censores

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TO THE

Two Famous and Celebrated
SOCIETIES.
OF
Royal Foundation.

As well that instituted for the Advancement of

Natural Knowledge,

As the other, especially for that of

Medicine,

NEHEMIAH GREW

Wisheth all Happiness.

I Present you, most Excellent Sirs, with the
following Treatise, in two Parts. The
First whereof, Of the Nature of the Bitter
Waters, and of their Salt, I drew up long
since,

since, as a short Paraphrase upon one Title of Nature, to be inserted into the Pandects of *Materia Medica*, with your good liking.

The above-mentioned *Salt* more than 15 Years past *, at a *Publick Meeting* of *Philosophers*, the Lord *Brouncker* being then *President*, was by me shewed to the *Board*.

Afterwards, some of You, my *Learned Brethren*, began to make it your selves, and also to prescribe it in your *Practice*.

The latter Part, *Of the Use of the Waters and of their Salt*, required the Proof of many Years Experience; and my own to be added unto Yours. Of what singular *Use* therefore, in many, and those, great and dangerous *Diseases*, it is to be accounted; both You, my *worthy Colleagues*, and my self also, can give our united *Testimonies*. But whether I have promis'd any more than the *Medicine* will make good, I am content should be referred to Your Judgments and unquestionable Experience herein. Its *Use* undoubtedly is of that large Extent, that as *Common Salt is the Sauce of*

* Now near eighteen Years.

(III)

soft Meats, so this may not improperly be
called, *The Seasoner of Medicine*.

In reckoning up the *Diseases* for which it
is most effectual, I thought fit to mention
some other Remedies, as apt Assistants here-
to. With this Intent, that I might not seem,
after the way of *Mountebanks*, to boast of
some new-invented *All-heal*. Yet I have
hardly any where set down an entire *Method*
of *Cure*. Forasmuch as what I have here
written is intended for the *Use*, not of *young*
beginners, but *experienced Physicians*, espe-
cially those who practise in *Places* remote
from this *City*: Whom, if I have shewed the
Tuutes of a *Medicine*, until now a *Stranger*
to them; it will be believed, I have done a
work, as not to them unwelcome; so, not
only intended for the *Publick Good*. And
therefore also as well as I could, what *you*
your selves have wished should be done;
Who envy not others your own *Experience*,
or aim at the *Monopoly*, but justly claim the
Body of *Natural Knowledge*, and of the
Health of Mankind.

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PART the FIRST.

Of the Nature of the Bitter Purging SALT.

CHAP. I.

of the Means whereby the Bitter Purging
Waters came first to be commonly known.

On all the Bitter Purging Waters, those
near to *Ebescham*, called *Epsom*, in the
County of *Surry*, were about the
year 1620. upon notice given of 'em
by a Country-Fellow, the first generally known.
For the first ten Years they were made use of
only by some of the poor neighbouring People,
externally, in washing their Old Sores.

Afterwards, the Lord *Dudly North*, Father to
Francis, not long since Lord Keeper of the Great
Seal of *England*, being of a melancholick Con-
stitution, and having formerly drank the *Spaw-
Waters* in *Germany*; thence took the hint to try
the virtue of these also near *Epsom*: hoping, I
sup-

Suppose that he had met with the like Chalybeate
or Iron * Waters, here at home.

But notwithstanding that, in this respect they
answer'd not his Wish and Expectation; yet he
did not conclude he had tried them in vain,
when he perceiv'd they purg'd him, as a Medi-
cine sent from Heaven, with much Relief.

By his Example many others were encourag'd
to try the Operation of these Waters. And a
mong the first, the Illustrious Princess *Maria*
de Medices, Mother to the Wife of King *Charles*
the First; the Lord *George Goring*, Earl of *Nor-
wich*, and many other Persons of Quality.

These, and all others who drank of these Wells
frequented them not as yet for their Pleasure,
but only for their Health; and therefore sent
either for their own, or some other neighbouring
Physicians, of whom they received Direction
how to drink them.

Upon this, Physicians began to come to these
Wells of their own accord; by whose Authority
they became of so great account, that no less
than two thousand People have met there in
one day, to drink, or to divert themselves.

* *Chalybeate or Iron-Waters.*] The Author here complies with the Name in use, tho' perhaps improper: for which we have heard him give this Reason, because we have no knowned, way of making a volatile Vitriol, or Spirit of Iron; wherefore the Spirit contained in these Waters is volatile in a high degree. So that we may rather suppose them to be impregnated with either a Marchasite, or some such Mineral as is fit to be a Companion to Iron.

A while after, *viz.* about thirty years ago, many *Londoners*, not having Time, or Money enough, to spend at these *Wells*, procured the *Waters* to be sent them thence.

Which occasion some taking hold of, furnished themselves with great Quantities, which they sold to *Apothecaries*, and those who were *advis'd* to drink them, as is also done to this day. The Reason why the *Wells* are less frequented by *Walking People* now, than heretofore, not being because *Physicians* now-a-days have a meaner Opinion of them, but because the number of those who drink the *Waters*, either at home, or at other *Wells*, daily increaseth.

For not long after those near *Epsom* came to be generally known, divers others of the same nature being found out, either upon search, or by chance, came into some Note and Use. The Names of the chief whereof I have hereunto subjoin'd.

At	Barnet North Hall Acton, Cobham, Dulwich Stretbam	in	Hartfordshire. Hartfordshire. Middlesex. Surrey. Surrey. Surrey.
----	------------------------------------------------------------------	----	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Besides these, the Curiosity of many being excited, may perhaps hereafter discover as many more yet unknown to us; especially with the help of this Indication, that sweet Springs commonly break forth about the *Tops* of Hills; but use for the most part, at the *Bottom*.

CHAP. II.

Of the Nature of the Bitter Purging Waters.

These *Waters* are indeed but moderately ~~scarce~~^{sensibly} Bitter, but scarce of any other ~~Taste~~^P ~~all~~^{All} ~~the~~^{the} ~~Parts~~^{Parts}.

Some in the account they give of their Travels, tell us of certain bitter *Springs* near Syria and in Egypt. And S. James in his General Epistle, intit. *Ad* ~~the~~^{the} ~~Amates~~^{Amates} as if *sweet* and *bitter Waters* were both ~~equally~~^{equally} known to the People in the *Eastern* Parts. ~~Altho'~~^{Altho'} ~~which~~^{which} *bitter Waters* may possibly be of this kind ~~in~~ⁱⁿ ~~the~~^{the} ~~Parts~~^{Parts}.

These *Waters* are not all equally *bitter* ~~or~~^{strong}, but some of them work a little more than others: of the stronger sort are those of *Dub* ~~Thi~~^{Thi} ~~wich~~^{wich}; of the more gentle, those of *Epsom*.

These *Waters*, while in their own *Wells*, are pure without Scent; but being kept cover'd in *Vessells* for some days, or weeks, especially in Summer, they will corrupt and stink; which sometimes happens to all others, even *Spring-Waters* them selves, in Ships which sail near the *Equator*.

This *Water*, tho' mix'd with a small quantity of *Syrup of Violets*, yet no way alters its *blue Colour* ~~which~~^{which} thereupon remains the same as if it had never been any other *Spring-Water*.

* *Scarce of any other Taste.*] The Reader is to observe that ~~them~~^{the} ~~this~~^{this} is said of the *Waters*, not of the *Salt* hereafter described. *Edge*

But a little Water impregnated with *Unslackt Lime*, being added to this Water, it becomes, as with a few drops of *Milk*, of a bluish and semi-punctuous Grey : and within about an hour, the engorgated parts, which cause that Colour, settle in the form of a whitish Cloud, produced by the action of the *Lixivial Salt of Lime* with that in the *Purging Waters*, which is potentially Acid.

All these *Purging Waters* will curdle Milk, if added to them when they boil; or are boiling hot; but not if mixed cold.

Any of these bitter *Purging Waters* being evaporated, or steamed away in a Glass, glazed, or other convenient Vessel, yieldeth both a certain *Cremor* at the top, and also a *Setling*; of both together about six, eight, or ten Drachms out of every Gallon of Water.

This *Cremor* * is of an Ashen Colour, and in whole substance stony, and seems to be of the nature of some sort of Plaster; but certainly not of the *Lime-stone*: for every one knows that *Lime-stone*, upon pouring even cold Water upon it, grows very hot, and sends forth a great and thick Steam; and being applied to any part of our Body, hath a burning quality, and is there-

* This *Cremor* is — stony, and of the nature of some sort of Plaster.] And I have seen Stones taken out of the Ground where these purging Springs arise, of this nature; some of them opacous, of the Colour of the *Lapis Judaicus*, and some of them transparent, but all of them glossy; and figur'd on the Edge with a sort of Indenture.

fore used by Surgeons as a *PotentiaL Caustick*. But the said *Cremor* being in a Crucible equally *burns*, neither produceth, upon the affusion of Water, any steam, nor grows hot, nor so much as in the least affecteth that most tender part, the Tongue, *it self*.

Sometimes it consisteth (as that of *Acton Water*) of most extream small and thin shining *Plates*, very friable or brittle, and altogether tasteless, tho' burnt as aforesaid; yet upon the affusion of any Acid Liquor, and especially of *Spirit of Nitre*, will cause an Ebullition with some seeming heat.

The lesser part of the *Sediment* or *Setting*, in Substance the same with the *Cremor* now describ'd; the rest is all Salt, but consisting of two sorts, the one a *Muriatick Salt*, the other that *Un* which is proper or peculiar to these Waters; these *W* Nature and Virtues whereof I here intend *to see*: shew.

In *Epsom Water*, the *Muriatick Salt* is about a twentieth part of the *Saline Mixture*. But in that of *Dulwich*, it is in a greater Proportion: And so in most of those above-mentioned. 'Tis both in its *Acrimonious Tastr*, and *the Figure of its Chrystals*, not unlike to Common Salt: Whence it is, that those Waters which have less of this Salt in them work more gently.

The other Salt is that, as I have said, which is special or proper to the *Purging Waters*: 'Tis *made*

made in the same manner * as any *Lixivial Salt*,
by Evaporation, Filtration, and Chrystallization; Calcination only being omitted. In this
preparation, first the Earthy or Plaistery part is
to be separated from the *Saline*, and then the *Mur-
stick Salt*, with the brown and dark *Liquor* from
out which is the proper Salt of the Waters.

C H A P. III.

of the Nature of the Proper, that is, of the Bitter Salt of the Waters.

His Salt, if perfectly prepared, is as beautifully white as the new fallen Snow.

Undissolved, it hath the same bitter Taste as the Waters themselves, but in a much higher degree: and is also acuated with a certain Pungency, which is very penetrating, but without any acrimony.

But if one *Drachm* of this Salt, or thereabout, be dissolved in a Pint of common Water, that is, in the same proportion as it hath to its own subterraneous Water; this *Common Water*, as it thereby obtains the same property of curdling

[Tis made in the same manner as any Lixivial Salt.] That
is the same general way; and so I am well assured it is.
Also that the particular way of Evaporation, Filtration,
and Chrystallization here used, is very different from that
in the making of any Lixivial Salt.

Milk, so is ennobled with the very same (almost simply) bitter Taste, as the Mineral Water it self, and with the same Purging Virtue; and may therefore not unaptly be ditting ish'd, both from that called *Sal mirabile*, made of Oil of Vitriol and *Common Salt*, and from all other Salts, by the Name of the Bitter Purging Salt.

This Bitter Purging Salt, according as the Water wherein it resides is more or less boiled, and the degree of cold whereto it is afterwards expos'd, and other Circumstances, shoots into *Chryſtals* differently fix'd, but in Figure, whether small or great, much alike: for moſt of them, if they have room to shoot in, are ſo many ſmall *Rectangular Prismſ*, with four *Parallelogram Plains*; and, with two of them a little leſs and opposite, ſomewhat flattish. Sometimes they are *Sextangular*, with two more *Parallel Plains*; but thoſe ſo very ſmall as hardly to be diſcerned. About half an Inch in length, exceeding their ſtickness five, ſix, or ſeven times. Stand upon a crusty *Base* of the ſame Salt. Their upper ends much vary'd, with ſometimes three, uſually four inclined or ſloped Plains, making *Obtuse Angles*, with the *Parallelogramſ* aforſaid, ſo as to be either pointed, or more often edg'd like a *Chizel*: of which upper Plains there is a *Pentangular* or *Sextangular* one, commonly greater than all the other three put together: to this an opposite, which is *Quadrangular* or *Pentangular*; the other two *Triangular*, and very ſmall, ſometimes hardly diſcernable without a Microſcope. These

These Chrystals, in their being of a long
ture, come nearer to *Nitre* or *Salt-Petre*; and
being Rectangular, to Common Salt, than to
any other Species of Salt.

The same *bitter Purging Salt*, being dissolved
in fair Water, and let to stand for some days in
Glaſs, it shoots round about the sides of the
Glaſs, into branched Chryſtals, in imitation of
the Shrubs. For the producing of which Fi-
gure, the now describ'd Chryſtals of this Salt, as
ſo those of *Nitre* (which ends ſometimes with
right Angles, ſometimes Acute) are made very
vix. by the application of the Sloped Plain
one Chryſtal to the *Parallel Plain* of another.
like manner as I have ſhewed
the Generation of the Leaves
of Plants, to be performed by
their own Salts. Where, by the
way, it is to be noted, that in that Discourse, I
have represented the Figures of *Nitre* and other
Salts, not altogether as we ſee them ſhoot, but
it is probable, they exist in the Plants them-
ſelves.

Put five Drachms of the *bitter Purging Salt* in
a Bottle, with half an ounce of fair Water,
and ſhake them very well; with this Agitation
done, and the gentle Warmth of the Hand, e-
ſpecially in Winter, the Water will quickly imbibe all
the Salt, a few Grains excepted; this Salt being
much more diſſoluble than most other Salts.

Tis also diſtinguifh'd from all other Salts by its

* *Anat. of Plants,*
Book 4. Part 1.
Chap. the last.

Specifick Gravity ; that is, the weight hereof, of compared with the Bulk. As it is heavier than *Alum* ; so much lighter than *Common Salt* : and also than *Nitre* ; as will appear hereafter in the 5th Chapter.

A Solution of this Salt, and another of Saturea of *Tartar*, or of any other *Lixivial*, or Urinous Salt * , being mixed, produce a white *Coagulum*, or Curd ; or a certain kind of Neutral Salt, neither affected neither like the one, nor the other, but in By some sort Astringent.

Oil of Vitriol, very strong, and newly made, being drop'd upon this Purging Salt, causeth The moderate Ebullition. Whereby it appears to partake of an *Alkaline Principle* †, which is also so capable of becoming in some sort *Lixivial*.

But no other Liquor, that I know of, whether for *Alkaline* or *Acid*, being dropped upon the said Salt, gives it any manner of Motion or Heat.

This Salt being put in a Crucible, into a prettily bright Fire, it melts or flows much after the manner of *Alum*, and huffs up in the form of a white, porous, and blubber'd *Calx*. Yet is this *Calx* almost wholly dissoluble in a sufficient quantity of Oil

* *Urinous Salt.*] Such as the Volatile Salt of Harts-horn, Soot, &c. † *An Alkaline Principle*, capable of becoming in some sort *Lixivial.*] Observe that these two are to be distinguished, viz. as the Genus is from the Species. For most Lixivial Salts are Alkaline ; but there are many Alkaline (as *Testaceous Salts* actually existent in Shells unburnt) which are not Lixivial.

of fair Water, excepting perhaps a fortieth
part of the whole: But the *Lime-stone* is nothing

This same *Calx*, burnt in a Crucible, for an
hour in a good strong Fire, grows almost as
hard as a *Bastard Alabaster*. Neither doth it af-
terwards become softer, upon its being expos'd
to the *Aer*: much less doth it crumble into Pou-
der, after the manner of *burnt Lime-stone*.

By being thus burnt, although it loseth some
part of its weight, yet not of its bitter Taste,
which on the contrary, is hereby augmented *.

The same *Calx*, with *Spirit of Salt*, or other
acid Liquor, maketh an Ebullition more or less
conspicuous, according to the Strength of the
infused Spirit; and may therefore be accounted
some sort *Lixivial*.

A pound of this *Salt* being put into a *Coated
Glass Retort*, and distill'd in a *Reverberating Furnace*, will afford in a *Receiver*, a little better
than half a Pound of a certain *Acid Spirit*, both
in Scent and Taste somewhat like to the *Spirit
of Common Salt*.

Oil of Vitriol dropped upon *Spirit of Common
salt*, causeth a kind of thick and fumy steam,
which also happens from the same *Oil*, if very
strong, when dropped upon the *Spirit of the
burning Salt*.

Its bitter Taste is hereby augmented.] Which shews the
strength of its Principles, by the Union whereof the bi-
tterness is produced.

It

It is very well known, that all Acidulated River-Waters, will turn Purple with the Infusion of a Dyer's Gall: As will also White-wine Vinegar, but of a duller Colour. But the same Infusion with the Spirit of the Purging Salt, though an *Acid*, yet makes no alteration: nor with Spirits of Sulphur, nor with Oil of Vitriol; whereby, as well as by sundry other ways, the different Nature of these and other *Acids* is discovered.

Having poured some *River-water* into eight Drinking-Glasses, and given them all the same *blue* Colour with a few drops of Syrup of *Violet*: I let one of them stand without any thing else superadded. To another, I put a little *Nitre*: To a Third, as much of the *bitter Purging Salt*: To a Fourth, the Infusion of *Quick-Lime*: And with fair Water, commonly called *Lime-Water*: To a Fifth, a solution of the *Calx* of the *Purging Salt*: To a Sixth, the Infusion of *white Tartar*: To a Seventh, the distill'd Spirit of the *Purging Salt*: To the last, a little both of the *Calx* of the *Purging Salt*, and of *Lime-water*.

In the three first, the *blue* Colour remained without alteration, saving that it grew a little paler.

In the fourth and fifth, the said *blue* was presently changed into a *Green*: but in the former, somewhat muddy and a little paler; in the latter, deep and clear, like that of an *Emerald*.

In the sixth and seventh, it turned Purple: but in the former, dull; in the other, like that of the *Ametyst*.

the green Colour, which in the fourth and
vanished in the space of three hours; in the
was deeper and more permanent.

From this manifold Experiment we may ob-
serve that Nitre, although upon deflagration, it
finds a fixt, and that a *Lixivial Salt*; and by
Evaporation, an Acid Spirit: yet having neither a
Lixivial nor an Acid Taste, it gives the Syrup nei-
ther a Green Colour nor a Purple. And by
Mystery of Reason, we may conclude the same of
bitter Purging Salt: that is to say, that it is
compounded of some Parts potentially Acid, that
are capable of becoming Acid; and of others
which are Alkaline, and also capable of becoming
in some sort *Lixivial*.

And that it really consisteth of both the said
Principles, is evident from the Acid Taste of its
Spirit; and the green Colour given to the Syrup
of its Calx, in like manner as by Lime water and
other *Lixivial Liquors*.

And in the last Glass, the Colour is therefore
deeper, and more Permanent; because it is pro-
duced by the joint efficacy (as Ink of two A-
gents, so this (of two *Lixivial Salts*, both
that of the Cathartick, and that of Lime.

And it is plain, that the Being of these Salts
and their Force in the changing of Colours, doth
not wholly and altogether depend upon the Fire,
because that the Infusion of white Tartar, gives
the Syrup a purple Colour, as well as the Spirit
of the Purging Salt.

Last-

Lastly, let it be noted, that I have called the *Alkaline Principle of the Purging Salt*, such an one as is capable of becoming, in some sort *Lixivial*: for neither in the *Calx* it self of this Salt (as hath already been observed in this Chapter) is there any *Lixivial Taste*. Notwithstanding which, from the Experiments afore-related, the Purging Salt may be argued, before it hath felt the Fire, to be in part *Alkaline*; but when it is well burnt, to be in some sort *Lixivial*: albeit we may not so properly call it *Lixivial*, nor perhaps by any other Name which Use hath approved: For the Furniture of Words is in nothing more scanty *, than it is in Philosophy; to wit, in that Philosophy, which, as the Handmaid of Nature, observeth her Varieties every where admirable, with exactest Discrimination and Diligence.

* *The Furniture of Words is in nothing more scanty, than it is in Philosophy.*] The Occasion of many false Conceptions of things, entertained and defended by unthinking Men, who having no other Images of things, but such as answer to some word in use; conclude the number of proper Words and of things to be the same.

CHAP.

C H A P. IV.

of the Qualities whereby the Bitter Purging Salt
differs from Alum, and from Common Salt.

From the Experiments already brought, and
next to be alledged, being throughly under-
stood and compared *, it will appear that the
Bitter Purging Salt, altho' it hath some qualities
common with other Salts, yet is truly, or spe-
cifically different from them all.

'Tis thought by most to be produc'd of some
certain *Aluminous Mine*; but upon no good
ground. For how can that be proved? because
it curdles Milk? 'Tis no proof at all. For by
the same absurd Argument, *Vinegar*, *Wine*, *Ale*,
and whatsoever else curdles Milk, wou'd be pro-
ved to be *Aluminous*.

Nor yet because it huffs up and blubers like
Alum when it's melted. For as much as melted
Borax huffs up in the same manner: but Borax
doth not coagulate Milk, and so is not *Aluminous*;

* From the Experiments — compared:] For tho' some of
them may seem to be of less moment, taken alone; yet
none of them but is of necessary use, not to be jointly con-
sidered towards the Author's giving of full satisfaction to the
Reader in what he asserts; whom I have heard to say, That
Philosophy sometimes, a twopenny Experiment is of
more value, than many of those pompous ones which glitter
with Gold and Pearls.

neither therefore is the bitter Purging Salt.

Again, of an ounce of *Alum* burnt in a Crucible for half an hour, there remains half an ounce of *Calx*; to which *Calx* if you pour an sufficient quantity of fair Water, till it hath imbibed all the dissoluble Parts, there will still lie at the bottom of the Vessel above two and fifty Grains of a simple and insipid Earth; which is more than six times as much as that which setteth from the *Calx* of the Purging Salt dissolved in like manner.

Neither is the *Spirit of Alum*, distilled with a strong Fire at all like the *Spirit of the Bitter Purging Salt*, as having a more Acrimonious Taste, and nothing so pleasant; besides that it strikes the Nose, which is specially to be observed, with a base stinking Scents, altogether like that of true *Spirit of Sulphur* *, which the Germans call *Gass Sulphuris*, or that of melted and flaming Brimstone.

Add hereto, that the Taste of *Alum* is so different from that of the *Purging Salt*, that nothing can be more: For whereas that is not at all bitter, but plainly rough or *acerb*; this, without any *Acerbity*, is plainly bitter.

They are likewise distinguished by their very different Figures. For the Chrystals of *Alum*,

* *The True Spirit.*] Which cannot be made (as that commonly called the *Spirit of Sulphur*) by Distillation, but by placing flaming brimstone and fair Water so together, that the Water may receive and imbibe the steam of the Brimstone, which either is, or contains the *Gass* or *Irre Spirit*.

that

that is the factitious, being in their *height a little*
rupe, are comprehended within eight *Plains*; two of
which, that above and that below, are *Sexanguine*,
and Parallel one to another: the greater and
smaller Sides of each of these *Plains*, being alter-
nately composed, so as the three greater are op-
posite to the three less. About these stand six
Quadrangular Plains, with their Sides and Angles
each unequal; the greater and the less alternately
inclined towards the Centre of the *Chryſtal*. But
how very unlike this Figure is to that of the *Cry-*
ſtals of the Purging Salt before describ'd, is viſi-
tual enough by comparing them together.

Neither is there any better ground to account
for *Purging Salt* a Species of *Common Salt*;
from which being perfectly refined, it differs as
much in Taste, as it doth from *Alum*.

As also in Figure; the *Crystals of Common*
Salt not shooting in length, but so as to come
nearly near the Figure, yet a little below the Al-
lende of a *Cube*.*

Farther, the *Purging Salt* being put in a *Crucible*, into a strong Fire, it flies little more than
half away, and that in an invisible Steam: but
Common Salt committed to the same Heat; as,
when melted, it becomes much more fluid; so it
vaporates in a thick Steam like to *Smoak*, hard.

[*A Cube.*] The *Crystals of Salt* produced by evapora-
ting the Water of the *Salt-Sea* in *Iudea*, are most of them
in Cubes.

ly

ly an eighteenth part of the whole remaining in the Crucible.

Neither (which may seem strange) doth the Spirit of *common Salt* curdle Milk after the same manner as doth the Spirit of the Purging Salt. I deny not indeed but that the Spirit of common Salt being poured, tho' in a moderate quantity upon Milk unmixed with any other Liquor, ~~the~~ when it boils, will make it curdle. Wherefore not to conclude upon Uncertainties, I made the Experiment in the following manner.

To a Pint of *boiling River-water* impregnated with a Dram of the Purging Salt, I put three or four spoonfuls of Milk, and so let the Water boil again; upon which the Milk turn'd to a Curd ~~within~~ swam upon the top of the Water.

And so it did in like manner, upon mixing a Drachm of the Spirit of the Purging Salt, instead of the Purging Salt.

Lastly, instead of the Spirit of the Purging Salt I put the Spirit of *Common Salt* (rather stronger than the Spirit aforesaid) and then the Milk to the Water, both of them in the same proportion as before; and so let the Water boil again which done, the Milk notwithstanding continued in its own natural Fluidity, without making any Curd.

* *Remaining*] And that which doth remain is not *Salt* ~~divis~~ but a true *Caput Mortuum*, of a kind of Brick-Colour, indi- ~~soluble~~ ~~in Water~~, and so without any Taste.

CHAP. V.

the Qualities whereby the Bitter Purging Salt differs from Nitre, and from the Salt of Lime.

NOR can we for any better Reason, look upon the Bitter Purging Salt, as a sort of Nitre ; from which it were sufficiently distinguished, if only by its *bitter Taste*.

And no less by its Figure ; the Crystals of Nitre being comprehended, not within four *Parallelogram Plains*, but always six *Plains* ; not within *Right Angles*, but *Obtuse*. And because the Tops of these are terminated, scarce ever with four, commonly with two, often with six *Spod Plains* ; and those more equal than in Purging Salt.

Likewise, in that being cast into the Fire, it is always inflammable. Much less doth it spend itself in bright and sounding Flames, as Nitre doth, till it is almost consumed. I say, *almost* ; for I deny not but in the 3d Chapter I have already intimated, that a very small part hereof (about a *twentieth*) after the Deflagration is ended, remaineth Fixed. Which yet is not at all nitrous, but in Taste, and other qualities, truly trivial ; being that which they who make Nitre mix with it out of Wood-Ashes.

Again, the Purging Salt being held in a Spoon

over the flame of a Candle, it melts within half the time of an hour ; and huffs up with bladders in the same manner as if cast into the Fire. Whereas Nitre, with the same sort of heat, will hardly melt at all ; but requires at least an eight-fold space of time, and a very bright Flame.

On the contrary, altho' it is melted more difficultly, yet with much greater fluidity ; for being placed in a Crucible, in a good strong Fire, it doth not blubber as Alum, or as the Purging Salt, but like Rosin, or Metal, plainly flows.

Nitre also, melted in a Crucible, sends forth a thick and dark Steam ; whereof there is no Appearance arising from the Purging Salt, that will with the most vehement heat.

They are moreover distinguished by the property of curdling Milk. For half a Drachm of the Purging Salt, being put into half a pint of the boiling Milk, makes a considerable Curd, with a very thin Whey : But Nitre being added to Milk in the same manner, and in a much greater proportion, doth not curdle it at all.

The Solubility of Nitre is likewise less by three degrees, than that I have before prov'd to belong to the Purging Salt. For half an ounce of Water being well shaken ; and assisted only with the Winter-warmth of the Hand, will dissolve no more than a Drachm and half of Nitre.

They are likewise different in weight, where I made the Experiment in manner following. put Oil of Turpentine into a Cylindrick Glass, to

the ^{sub-}rose to the height of three Inches ; then putting into the same Glass, two Ounces of the ^{ire.} Purging Salt, the Oil advanc'd to a fourth Inch. will but the like quantity of pure Nitre being super-added, the Oil then ascended further, not more than three quarters of an Inch. Wherefore Nitre is heavier by one fourth * part, than the Purg-
ing Salts.

And yet Water, if impregnated with the Purg-
ing Salt, takes up less space (the Bulk of the Salt consider'd) than if with Nitre : That is, Water being put into the Glass with these Salts instead of the Oil : upon the dissolution of the former, will subside or sink lower, than of the latter †.

Lastly, Let Dantzick Vitriol, Sal Armoniack, and instead of Nitre, the bitter Purging Salt, be mixt in the same proportion, and distill'd in the same manner as is done for the making of *Aqua Regia*. If then the Purging Salt were a sort of Nitre, the Water distill'd from the said Mixture would dissolve Gold as well as the *Aqua Regia*. But we find no such Gold-dissolving Power in this Water.

Much less is it the Nitre of the Ancients : For neither is it that Egyptian kind, so often men-

* By one fourth Part] That is, three times the Bulk of Nitre, makes equal weight with four times the Bulk of the Purging Salt. † The Reader cannot so well understand this Experiment, except he have recourse to that Lecture, which the Author read some years since before the Royal Society, of the Solution of Salts in Water.

tioned by Hippocrates: nor that, not unlike it, described both by *Dioscorides* and *Pliny*, to be Purple, and of an *Acrinumus Taste*; nor yet that which *Aetius* prescribes, as if a *Bole*, to be burnt and quenched in *Wine*.

Neither in the last place can it be properly entituled, a *Limy Salt*: For the Purging Salt, or the Purging Water it self, put to Milk, makes a much harder Curd, and more plentiful than *Lime-water*, that is, the *Infusion of Burnt Lime*. And what if it were produc'd by both alike? How many Liquors afore mention'd, curdle Milk, which are no more *Limy*, than they are *Aluminous*?

Spirit of Nitre dropped upon the *Cremor* on the top of *Lime-water*, or even upon *Lime-Stone* when unburnt, maketh a conspicuous *Ebullition*. But the Purging Salt is with this *Spirit*, not at all affected.

There is no where found two more differing *Tastes*, than those of the Purging Salt, and of *Lime-Water*; this being *Lixivial* and *Sweet*, that in a manner *Cold* and *Bitter*.

Lime-Stone burnt and unslackt, being sprinkled with a little Water, presently crumbles into Powder. On the contrary, the pouder'd *Calx* of the Purging Salt, immediately becomes a hardish Substance, and continues for some Minutes almost like a Stone.

The Spring-Water near *London*, and notified by the Image of the *Holy Lamb*, and commonly called

called *Lambs-Conduit Water*, by pouring upon it a little *Lime-water*, presently grows whitish, with a kind of grey *Coagulum*, as doth the Purging Water. But Water impregnated with the *Calx* of Purging Salt, maketh the said *Lambs-Conduit Water* nothing muddy, nor colour'd, but it continues altogether as clear, as when it was unmixed.

Fair Water being impregnated with the bitter Purging Salt, and then evaporated, yields the Lime Salt again in Quantity and Quality, most entire. Contrariwise, the Salt of *Lime-Water*, evaporated in the same manner, is wholly turn'd into a tasteless and stony Substance †: The Cause whereof is, for that the Salt of the *Lime-water* is so far agreeable, and throughly united to some

† *The Salt of Lime is turned into a tasteless and stony Substance.*] From which Experiment may be made this Remark, That the reason why Mortar is so good a Cement, is because the Salt contained in the Lime, not being dissolved like other Salts, but hardened, and really petrified by the *Aer*, becomes the Cement of the other parts of the Lime, whereby the whole Mass is in time converted again into a Stone. And that probably the Mortar which the *Romans* used, was harder than that we commonly meet with now-a-days; either because they made it of such Lime as had a greater plenty of this Salt, or by burning it otherwise than is now usual, the Salt was laid more open to the *Aer*; or else by pouring upon unslackt Lime, not common Water, as is now always done, but Lime-water; whereby the Salt, bearing a greater proportion to the Earth, the whole Mass might require a greater Hardness, and in a less time. 'Twere easie to be tri'd.

(24)

other Aerial Salt, as therewith to constitute a Third sort of Body different from them both. In like manner, as of the best Oils of *Vitriol*, and of *Annise-seeds*, mixt together, is produc'd a *Rosin*, properly so call'd, and if wash'd, altogether tasteless.

The proof whereof we may also make by the following Experiment. Let some *Lime water* be kept a Week, or longer, both in a corked Bottle, and in an open Vessel: In the Bottle the top of the Water remains naked; but in the open Vessel, where the Air hath a free access to the Water, it is cover'd with a *Cremor* insipid, and stony, properly so called.

But Water, in which the *Purging Salt* is dissolved, being committed to the *Air* for many days in an open Vessel, affords not a jot of the said stony *Cremor*; nor is that *Cremor* produc'd upon boiling the *Purg'g Waters*, at all of a *Limy* Nature, as is before proved.

Add hereto the extream difference in the solubility of these two *Salts*: for half an ounce of the *Purging Salt*, without any heat or much shaking, is easily and presently dissolv'd in two ounces of fair Water: whereas half an ounce of the Salt contained in *Quick Lime*, requires, to imbibe it all, no less than two Gallons and half of fair Water; that is, three hundred and twenty Ounces, or a hundred and sixty times as much Water as the former. For so much fair Water is necessary to the Edulcoration of an Ounce of *Quick-*

Quick Lime : which being done, there remains
about half an Ounce of a most light and insipid
Salt in the bottom of the Vessel.

To conclude, the bitter Purging Salt, were ve-
y eminently distinguished from all other Salts,
no other way than by its *Medicinal Vertue* ; as
the *Second Part* of this *Treatise*, concerning
Use, will plainly appear.

In the mean time we will suppose that some
small Portion both of *Nitre*, and *Common Salt*,
and also of *Plaister*, may sometimes be mixed,
not only with the Purging Waters, but with the
Purging Salt it self. And what then? when it is
probable, that in all Nature there is no where
to be found a Body absolutely simple. Who
knows not that *Silver* is mix'd with *Lead*, or *Cop-
per*, *Gold* with *Silver*, in the same *Mine*, *Vein*,
or even *Lump* of *Ore*? Yet *Silver* and *Copper*,
Silver and *Gold*, do not therein constitute a
third Metal; but are two or more co-existent,
yet separable Metals.

Nor moreover is the Identity of Bodies suffi-
ciently defin'd, by their agreement in some *Qua-
lities*: For so *Lead* or *Gold* do agree; both of
them are Bodies hard, opacous, malleable, meltable,
heavy, &c. and are both therefore Metals. But
nothing is *Gold*, which hath not all the qualities
of *Gold*. Yet *Gold* differs not in more, or more
eminent respects, from *Lead*, than doth the *bitter*
Purging Salt from all the Salts aforementioned:
And is therefore a very noble Salt of a distin&
tind.

CHAP. VI.

Some further Observations of the Nature of the Ho- Bitter Purging Salt.

OF the specifying Qualities of this Salt afore-mentioned, I described one of the principal is, its mean-^{ing} and almost simply bitter Taste; with respect whereof, the Crystals of Silver, of all other Salts I know of, come the nearest. For these are some indeed bitter; but also in a high degree; and the Novice in the Pursuit of Physick, will easily observe, that the Salt of Silver is also jointed with the greatest Austerity.

* In the second Dis-
course of Mixture. I have elsewhere * observ'd, that the *Lapis Calaminaris*, and *Silver* have some Qualities common to them both. I adopt theretore upon this Stone a little Spirit of Nitre; and after the Ebullition thereupon arising was over, I diluted the Mixture with fair Water. This Water, like the Crystals of Silver, is not only rough in the highest degree †, but very bitter. The only Mineral that I know of, endued with a bitter Taste, except the Salt of Silver, and the Purging Salt.

But whether the Purging Salt is the Product of any perfect or imperfect Silver Mine, or any

† Rough in the highest degree.] As in all likelihood, it also becomes in the Stomach and Bowels, when it there meets with some fretting Acid: and thereby sometimes proves a potent Astringent in *Diarrhoeas* thence arising.

which the *Lapis Calaminaris* is of kin, or rather of some other; not having as yet been able to get the Mother-Mineral hereof, I leave undetermined.

However, from the foresaid Experiments, so much is evident, That the *Bitter Purging Salt* compounded of such certain Parts as are Potentially Acid, that is, capable of becoming Acid, and of others which are *Alcaline*; and that these are such as are also capable of becoming, in some sort, *Lixivial*.

Now in *Salts* compounded of divers Principles, the Proportion, Nature and Union of the Principles are to be consider'd. There seem to be some Acid Particles mixed even with *Lixivial Salts*; but in a small Quantity. On the contrary, in *Tartar*, that is, the *Salt of Wine*, there is a less Quantity of those parts which are Potentially Salts; but of the Acid a far greater. And in much a like manner, in the *Bitter Purging Salt*. With this difference, that in the former, such Parts as are actually Acid, are mixt with the *Alcaline*; in the latter, such only as are potentially Acid.

Again, all Salts made of Lees, are *Acrimonious*. But those commonly called *Testaceous*, are, not without ground, accounted more mild: As are also some Acid Liquors above others, as the Juice of *Wood-Sorrel*, an Infusion of *Cremor Tartari*, and the like. All which are excell'd, in Lenity, by the Purging Salt. Which tho' upon Distillation, it yields an Acid Spirit; yet there is nothing of

Acri-

*Acrimony, or Acidity, to be perceiv'd in the Salt, an
it self; but only in its Principles, when severed
and defiled with a most vehement Fire.*

Neither is this Salt of a flat Taste; but extream
subtil and penetrating; and upon that score, is
the more effectual remedy. And its admirable
Subtilty hereby further appears, in that pene-
trating all manner of earthen Vessels, if not ve-
ry well Leaded or Glaz'd, it gathers all over
their Outsides in a sort of Pile like that of the
Amiantbus or Thrum-stone *.

The Principles also of this Salt, are much more
inseparably mixed, than in *Tartar*, and many
other Medicines. Their Union being so close
and inward, that the one, *viz.* that which is
Potentially Acid, seems not; tho' with a reverbe-
rating Fire, by very much more than one half, to
be parted from the other. Whence it is, that
whereas all other gentle *Catharticks*, do many
times deceive the Physician; this Salt never fails
to purge. For of all Medicines, those act upon
the humours of the Body with the greatest cer-
tainty, which by the force of the Humours are
least alterable. Of which number, the said Salt
and other Minerals are to be accounted.

Lastly, this Salt, altho' compounded of divers
Principles, yet is it, if duly prepar'd, very pure;
so as not to be alloy'd with the thousandth part

* *In a sort of Pile, like that of the Amiantbus.*] As also
many other Salts do, when they shoot not under Water, but in
the Aer, and so under the government of some Aerial Salts.
of

any sort of Body which is a stranger to it.
or if you evaporate some distill'd Water im-
regnated with an Ounce of this Salt; it will
yield not one Grain of any Heterogeneous Salt,
or of the stony Sediment, nor of the like Cre-
w; but the same Ounce of a more pure Pur-
ing Salt.

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PART the SECOND.

Of the USE of the Bitter Purging SALT.

CHAP. I.

The Use of the Bitter Purging Salt more generally considered.

THe Use of the Purging Waters near Epsom, and others of the same kind, is so great and manifold, and so well known to our London Physicians of any standing and practice, that they who make a doubt of it, are hardly to be allow'd the hearing. They are experienc'd to be a very effectuall remedy in sundry great Diseases, without the conjunction of any untoward Quality, and whereof, if duly prescribed, the Patient is never surpriz'd with any ill Effect.

One thing, and that with some shew of Reason, perhaps may be objected; That these Waters afford a stony *Cremor* upon boiling. Whence it may be doubted, whether they may not also afford some Matter apt for the breeding of a Stone in Humane Bodies.

But this Objection is contrary to all Experience; as well that whereof I have before given an account, as that we have in the daily Practice of Phyfick. For by what hath been said, it appears, That this kind of stony *Cremor* gathers at the top, neither of the Purging Waters, nor of Lime-water it self, unless it be expos'd in an open Vessel, to the Air. And therefore also, that no stony Matter is bred of these Waters in a Man's Body.

But is not the Air mix'd with the humours of a Man's Body? Be it so: and so it is likewise with all Water; as is certain from Experiments made in the Air-Pump. Yet that which would never have any Lapidifick power, were it not assisted with a free Influx of the External Air. Besides that, the Air passes not into a Man's Body, without being strained.

And as to practical Experience, there are some known not only to my self, but to other Physicians, who albeit they have drunk the said purging Waters plentifully, and many days together, for twenty or thirty Years; yet have always been free from the Gout and Stone, either in the Kidneys or Bladder; and are in perfect health at this

present Time. And the Lord North before
mention'd, who drank of those both at Epsom
and Barnet, lived free of the said Diseases to the
age of Eighty five.

I add further, That Lime-water it self, which
upon the access of the Air to it, presently breeds
furry *Cremor*, is yet frequently, and very safe-
ly prescribed by Physicians.

And, our *Londoners*, constantly make use of
lime-water for the refining of Sugar. By means
whereof the *Molasses* are more easily separated
from the Crystallized or Candied Part, which
hereupon becomes perfectly pure and white.

But if the purging Water it self is to be look'd
upon as an excellent Medicine, how much rather
the Salt which is made of it? For that which is
objected against the Use of the Water, should it
for Argument sake be granted: yet is of no
force against the Use of the Salt, as being depu-
tated from all Lapidifick Matter.

The Water also, if souled with overmuch of
the *Muriatick Salt*, will sometimes work a little
hurshly. But the afore-commended Salt, being
clear'd of that Dreg, is one of the easiest of
purging Medicines.

'Tis also perfectly free from that malignant
Quality belonging to most Purgers. It never
ferments the Humors; never causes Sicknes, or
Swooning, or any Gripes; never fails the Phy-
sician by mere Motions to Stool, nor affrights
the Patient by over-purging.

Be-

Besides, the Waters are not always of equal strength, but of more or less, both in Winter and Summer, as the Season is wet or dry. And some who sell these Waters, when they find their store begins to fail, will venture to adulterate them with *common Water*, whereby the *Physician*, tho' he prescribe the usual Quantity, yet is sometimes deceived in his Expectation of the usual Success. But the Salt prepared of the Waters, if pure and perfect, is always alike, and of the like purging Virtue.

Physicians too in *London*, for the most part, prescribe the Waters, not to be drunk raw, but boil'd; For so the quantity of the Waters being lessen'd, and yet the strength encreas'd *, they work off the *Stomach* and *Bowels* more advantageously. In Summer they should be boil'd to two thirds; in Winter to one half, which requires two or three hours: Whereas the purging Salt of the Waters being dissolv'd in any convenient Liquor, perhaps a little boil'd, is a Medicine always ready, very convenient to the Apothecary's hand, and more to the Patient's Ease; who in urgent Diseases lies in much pain, while he stays for a long and tedious boiling, and is thereby sometimes put in danger.

* *The Strength encreas'd.*] That is, proportionably to the Quantity of the Water; the Virtue of these Waters not lying in a Volatile Spirit, as in those of *Tunbridge* and the like, but in a fixed Salt.

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to consider, is, That the Waters, if kept a
longer than ordinary, especially in a hot
Country or Season, will be corrupted and stink:
whereas the Salt extracted from them, conti-
nes every where, and always incorruptible.

But I foresee that some may doubt of the
holisomenes even of the *Salt* it self, because
upon Distillation it yields an Acid Spirit.
But this Objection lies as much against the
use of the Waters themselves, for that in these
the said *Salt* is contained.

And we may as well suspect the eating of Su-
gar or Honey, or the whitest Bread: from each
of which a Spirit may be distilled, not only as
is the Spirit of the purging *Salt*, but also
any *Acrimonious*. Wine also, and the most
holisome Food, when as their Principles either
Fermentation, or otherwise, are once de-
rived, do always partake of hurtful, and some-
times of poilous Qualities. Even the Food of
Infants, their Mothers Milk, if set so as to
be warm, will grow sowre in a short time.
The purging *Salt*, taken dissolved in any pro-
per Liquor, doth not thereby suffer a Dissolution
of its Principles, but retains its *Essence* or *Nature*
unaltered; as much as do any of the above na-
med sorts of Food when we eat them. For as the
it self, so any fair Water in which we drink
the *Salt* dissolv'd, gives the same moderately
Taste, without the least *Acidity* join'd with it.

CHAP. II.

Of the Way of Prescribing the Bitter Purg- ing Salt.

IT may be taken in any Liquor, agreeable to the Patient's Constitution or Palate: as Spring-Water, distill'd Water, or any other very clear; a Decoction of Pearl'd Barley, thin Water-Treacle, or very thin Panada; Posset-drink, Whey*, and the like. I often use fair Water, a little boiled and season'd with Mace; whereof I prescribe a Quart or three Pints, or two Quarts, impregnated with half an Ounce, or an Ounce, or more of the Purging Salt †; as for example, The Take of Spring-Water two Quarts, Mace a Drachm: Boil them a little, and in the Liquor, dissolve an Ounce or ten Drachms of the bitter

* Whey.] The English Reader may be minded, that the Whey is to be boiled, lest the Salt should make it curdled. [as if not before it is drunk, yet in the Stomach. † Impregnated with half an Ounce or an Ounce of Salt, &c.] It is a charracter requisite to admonish an English Reader, That in taking the Purging Salt, he is to be guided in the manner, time, and quantity, by his Constitution and Disease. And that in making a judgment of these, he is not to trust himself too far, but as his safest Course, to be advised by a Physician.

Pur-

Salt, for an Apozeme to be drank in the
ning fasting, hot, warm, or sometimes cold,
the space of two Hours, with a little Exer-
cise.

This Apozeme may be taken either by it self,
in the working of other purging Physick.
It is also convenient, upon occasion, to quick-
en the Operation of the Salt, by adding either
as *Manna*, or both of them to the *Mace*:
try in the following or other like form.

Take two Quarts of Spring-Water, *Mace* a
* Drachm, *Alexandrian Sena* two Drachms, or
a little *Manna*. Boil them a little; and then add an
ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*. of the best *Car-
thagian Manna* an ounce and half, or two oun-
ces, and so run the Liquor through a Sieve.

The Lord *Dudley North* was the first who
drank the *Purging Waters* with Milk. But they
were heavy upon his Stomach, because he mixed
them cold. Afterwards Physicians alter'd the
Waters with Milk, when they boil'd. Which
way, those who have a mind, may very safely
use the Salt it self; as thus:

Take three Pints and a half of Spring-Water,
the *Bitter Purging Salt* an Ounce, or ten
Drachms. Mix them, and when the Water boils;
pour upon it half a Pint of new Milk, and strain
the Liquor from the Curd.

In Summer, when the *Medicinal Waters* are
every where frequented; this Salt cannot be ta-
ken in any thing better, than in *Tunbridge Wa-*

on, or any other Cbalybeate kind, or in the purging Water it self.

A Drachm, or a Drachm and half of this Salt, taken in the first three or four draughts of Tunbridge Water, or any other of the same sort, and repeated for some Mornings, prepares the Humours, and clears the way, for the intended Drinking bout.

The Cbalybeate Waters do sometimes bind, Which Inconvenience is remedied, by putting a little of this Salt into the first or last Glaſs.

It is also very usefully taken in the purging Waters themselves. VVhereof if every draught be impregnated with a Drachm of the purging Salt, they will work off much more certainly, and with half the number; and so be less burdensome to the Stomach.

Nor can any thing be more proper, than sometimes to sharpen Clysters, with Three Drachms, or half an Ounce of purging Salt, instead of that which is commonly called Sal Gemma.

CHAP. III.

of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt, more particularly: And first, in Diseases of the Stomach.

What I am about to say of the *Purging Waters*, and of their *Salt*, is not ground upon mere *Conjecture*, but the long *Experience* of other very Learn'd *Physicians*, as well as my own. Who all of us, in the *Diseases* hereafter mention'd, have made use of both the aforesaid Remedies with very good Success.

First then, the *Purging Waters*, or the *Salt* made of them, are a most friendly Medicine to the Stomach, viz. in promoting both an *Appetite* and a good *Digestion*. Partly, from one of its Principles, which is *Potentially Acid*; and partly from the addition of the *Alcaline*, and thereby the *Bitterness* of the whole. And from the former so much the rather, because it affords a spirit somewhat of kin to the Spirit of *Common Salt*, the Seasoner of all Food: yet from the latter withal, seeing we experience the Stomach to be strengthen'd with most things which are bitter. And 'tis well known that they are compounded *Salts* which whet the *Appetite* most of all. For *Pickles* are generally made not with *Brine* alone, but with the addition of *Vinegar*.

gny. And good Claret, as at Meals it is the most acceptable ; so is it impregnated with a greater quantity of *Tartar* (a compounded Salt) than any other Wine. The Salt too of *Steel* (which is a compounded one) among other Stomachick Medicines, is none of the leaſt note. And those two universal Digestor, Bread and Spittle, of which the one contains an Acid Salt, the other an Alcaline, being mixt together, perform the office of a compounded Salt. In a word, the Ferment or Digester of the Stomach it ſelf, is compounded both of Alcaline and Acid Parts ; those derived from the Arterial Blood, theſe in part from the *Nerves*, or the *Dregs* of the Animal Spirits: in proof whereof there are ſundry Arguments, which I ſhall not here iuſt upon. So long then as the Stomach is furniſh'd with both theſe Salts in a ſuitable measure, the buſineſs of Concoction is rightly perform'd : But if either of them be predominant, ſometimes Acid Salts, and ſometimes Alcaline, are neceſſary to reſtore them to a due proportion.

When by eating or drinking over-much, or that which is unwholsom, Concoction is faulty; *Vomiting* often follows : For the staying whereof the Purging Water, or the Salt made of it, is an excellent Medicine. For the ſame reaſon as that ſo celebrated Mixture of Salt of *Worwood* and the Juice of *Lemons*. And is herein ſuperior to it, in that it both deſtroyes and expels from the Stomach all kinds of Peccant Salts, as it were with one stroak.

Where-

Wherefore also in the Stomach-ach, and other
Pains, nothing is safer or more effectual
than the aforesaid Medicine.

And so likewise in the *Hypocondriacal Affection*
which is the *Stomach-ach*.

In these Diseases, I have sometimes prescribed
the Purging Waters, or the Salt made of them,
alone. But ordinarily not without the Assist-
ance of Bleeding, Vomiting, and other like Re-
medies. It being the part of a prudent Physici-
an, especially in great and dangerous Diseases,
not to betray his Patient's Health, and the Valu-
ation of his own Fame, to any one Remedy *,
tho' never so highly in vogue.

Now these Remedies are, according unto In-
dications, infinitely to be vary'd. Some Forms
hereof, notwithstanding, the Learned Reader
may be pleased to look over, as here they fol-
low.

To quicken a decay'd Appetite.

Take a Flask of *Spaw water*, or a Quart or
three Pints of any other Chalybeate Water; or

* *Not to betray — to any one Remedy.*] The English Re-
ader is here again admonished, for two Reasons, not to be
over-busie with this Medicine, so as to use it upon all occa-
sions; as we say, hand over head. First, because he can very
ill be a competent Judge of his own Case; nor there-
fore whether the Salt be proper for it, or no. And, Se-
condly, because, tho' it should be so, yet he skills not those
other Remedies usually necessary to be joined with it; and
it may be the Author of his own hurt, not so much in what
he doth, as in omitting what he should have done.

had, of Mac'd Waters; of the Bitter
Punging Salt half an Ounce, six Drachms or an
Ounce: Mix, and drink them fasting, and a little
warmed.

And for the better drinking of all sorts of
Chalybeate Waters *, if the Physician thinks fit,
a little warm, without the loss of its most sub-
tile Spirit: The Bottle in which they are kept,
being set in a Vessel of hot Water for some Mi-
nutes of an Hour, is then to be open'd, and af-
ter the pouring out of every Glass, to be well
stopped again.

While these are drinking, let the Patient take
an hour before Dinner twenty, thirty, or forty
Drops of *Elixir Proprietatis* †, in a spoonful of
Sherry or Purl Royal: And let him continue the

* And for the better drinking all sorts of Chalybeate Waters.] The Readers may ask, But how can we come by these Waters at a distance from the VVells? And it may be asked with a little Indignation, VVhy any part of England should want good Tunbridge water, when we have the Spa-water (the Spirit whereof is altogether as Volarile as that of Tunbridge-water) at a far greater distance? It is but putting it into the same kind of Flasks, with long and slender Necks, and stopping them with the same care, (with Corks dipped in melted Pitch, and thrust into the Flasks at the same instant in which they are filled, and then covered with some of the same Pitch, and over that with a Piece of soft Leather) and the thing is done. And then the Trial whether this Care hath been used, is easily made, by its turning Purple, upon mixing a little of it with the Powder of a Dyer's Gall. † *Elixir Proprietatis.*] That made with Oil of Sulphur, is best in this case.

Use

of these either every, or each other Day, repeating them four, five, or six times. Or, Take two Ounces of the Conserve of *Roman Wormwood*, Conserve of *Garden Scurvy-grass* an Ounce, preserv'd *Ginger* half an Ounce, *Species aromaticæ Garyophyllatæ* || a Drachm and half, *Interane Barque*, and the true *Salt of Wormwood*, each a Drachm, Syrup of *Clove-July flowers*, enough to make them into an Electuary. Let the Patient take as much as a large Nutmeg going to Bed, and of a small Walnut an hour before Dinner, with a little of the aforesaid Wine, or without it, if it gives him the *Head aeb.* Or,

Take of the new and bright Filings of Steel three Ounces, of the tops of *Roman Wormwood* half a Handful, the Root of *Roman Cyperus* and *Calamus Aromaticus*, of each a Drachm, the lesser *Galangale*, *Cinamon*, and *Saffren*, of each half a Drachm, and a Quart of *White wine* or *Sberry*. Let them be digested with a gentle Heat, or stand in a warm room, in a *Bottle* well stopped, three days, shaking them every day. Pour off the *Infusion*, and let the Patient take two, three, or four Spoonfuls every day, two hours before dinner.

To stay Vomitings.

Take of any *Chalybeate Water*, or instead of that, three Pints, or two Quarts of *Spring-wa-*

|| *Species aromaticæ Garyophyllatæ*] A Compounded Powder in the *London Dispensatory*.

ter season'd with *Mace*, of the bitter Purging Salt six Drachms, an Ounce, or ten Drachms Mix, and drink them fasting warm, or cold, as you like them best, repeating them thrice, or oftner, if need be, either every, or each other day; and join herewith the following Pills.

Take *Red Roses* and strong *Cinamon*, of each a Drachm, *Cloves*, and *Salt of Steel* of each a Scruple, *Saffron* half a Scruple, the *Chymical Oil of Mint* eight drops, and as much *Syrup of Steel* as will make them up into twenty four Pills. Let the *Patient* take three of them every day, two hours before a *Dinner* of *Spoon-meat*, and as many going to bed.

A *Fomentation* made with a hot *Infusion* of *Mint* and *Red Roses*, and an ounce of *Venice Treacle* in *Claret-Wine*, may sometimes be of great use.

In the Pain of the Stomach like the Cholick.

Take of the best *Sena* two drachms, *Mace* a drachm: Boil them in a sufficient quantity of *Spring-water*, to three Pints or two Quarts; and to the strain'd Liquor add six drachms, an ounce, or ten drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, *Syrup of Steel* an ounce and half; for *Purging Apozeme*, to be drunk in the Morning after the usual manner. Or it may be made without *Sena**, and taken either by it self, or with the following Pills.

* *Or without Sena.*] That is, when it gripes the Patient.

Take

Take of the Stomach-Pill with Gums † twenty Grains, fine Filings of Steel ten grains, Syrup of Steel a few drops: Mix, and make them into four Pills, to be taken going to bed. The next Morning take the Apozeme as aforesaid; and so for three days together, or longer.

Sometimes it may be convenient to mix with the Pills the Extract rf Gentian, or some other bitter Extract:

As also half a Grain, or a Grain of London Sudanum, if the Pain be great.

In the Hypocondriacal Affection with Heat.

Take of any Chalybeate Water a Quart, three pints, or two Quarts; dissolve in each draught half a drachm or a drachm of the bitter Purging Salt, to seven or eight draughts, and drink them cold.

Or instead of Chalybeate Waters, it may be taken in simple Milk water, or distill'd from the leaves of Borage and Burnet.

In the Heart-Burning.

In which Disease the Salt may be successfully taken in like manner, as in the last aforesigned.

† The Stomach Pill with Gums.] A Pill in the London Dispensatory.

C H A P. IV.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt, in Diseases of the Guts, and Parts adjacent: And first in the Cholick.

It is not necessary to pre-monish the Learned and Experienced Physician, that in this Disease, letting Blood is seldom or never to be omitted, and to be done in the first place.

Next, it is very advisable, that the following, or other like *Clyster*, be injected.

Take a Pint of the *common Decoction* for a *Clyster* *, adding to the other Ingredients to be boil'd three Drachms, or half an Ounce, of the best *Sena*. In the strained *Liquor* dissolve half an Ounce, or five Drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, of the Species *Hiera & Picra* † a Drachm and half, or two Drachms; brown Sugar 2 Ounces. With this, or some such *Clyster*, the Pains are often dissipated, or at least the way is open'd for the Passage of internal *Medicines* through the Bowels.

A Scruple, or half a Drachm of *Pilula Ru-*

* *The common Decoction for a Clyster.*] That is, a Decoction prescribed under that Title in the *London Dispensatory*.

† *Species Hiera Picra.*] A compounded Powder so called in the *London Dispensatory*.

London Laudanum, are oftentimes given with
good success.

And sometimes *Quicksilver*, if the Patient
wallows enough of it, as four or six Ounces :
and especially if it be taken in about two Ounces
of the *Tinctura Sacra* ; that is, the Tincture
of the Species *Hiera Picrae*, made with White-
wine, or in some other convenient Purger.

But of all other *Medicines*, the Purging Wa-
ters, or the *Salt* made of them, is the noblest, be-
ing taken in the following, or other like manner.

Take of *Spring*, or *River-Water* seasoned with
Mace, three Pints and half, *Chamemile-flower-*
water, or *Mint water*, six Ounces ; of the *Bitter*
Purging Salt an Ounce or ten Drachms ; and an
Ounce and half, or two Ounces of the best
Manna : Mix them for an *Apozeme*. Let the
Patient take about half a Wine-Pint at a draught
at first, and all of it in an hour, or an hour and
half : altho' he should vomit some part of it.

This *Medicine* is sometimes more effectual, if
assisted with the following.

Take of the *Tinctura Sacra* two, three, or four
Ounces ; and hereof a spoonful or two, before
every draught of the aforesaid *Apozeme*.

In the Worms.

The same Salt, if the *Nurse* mixes a Drachm,

* *Pilula Rudii.*] A Pill in the *London Dispensatory*.

or

Drachm and half, and any Food, commonly made for Children, without Milk, will expel the Worms.

Especially if the Physician shall premise the taking in some convenient manner, a Grain of *Mercurius dulcis*; or of the *Crystals or Salt of Silver*; or two or three Grains, according to the Age of the Patient.

Or if the *Purging Salt* be dissolved in bitter Clysters.

In Nephritick Pains.

In this Disease, as well as in the *Cbalick*, 'tis proper, for the most part, to begin with Bleeding; and oftentimes also to repeat it.

To which also a Vomit of *Vinum Benedictum*, or *Sal Vstrioli*, especially if the Patient be inclinable to vomit, is very aptly subjoin'd. For by virtue hereof, not only the Stomach it self (sometimes the first in fault) is unloaded; but all the Nervous Parts bordering on the Kidneys, and extreamly suffering in this Disease, are relieved.

After this, especially if the Patient hath no Stool with the Vomit, let the following Clyster be injected

Take of *Chamemile flowers* a handful, *Cumine Seeds*, *Sweet Fenil seeds*, and *Parsley seeds*, all bruised, of each an ounce, *Marsh Mallow Root*

* *Nephritick Pains.*] That is, Pains in and about the Kidneys or Reins.

sliced

and bruised, to be used. Boil them in an sufficient quantity of fair Water to a Pint. To the strain'd Liquor add half an ounce of Turnep-tint dissolved in the Yolk of an Egg, half an ounce of the bitter Purging Salt, and Syrup of Marsh-Mallows three ounces. Mix them for a Clyster.

If the Pains are very great, add to the Clyster forty or fifty drops of *Cydoniated Liquid Laudanum*. Upon the working of this, or the like Clyster, the Patient oftentimes, will make Water with, or without a Stone or Gravel, and the Pains go off.

But if they are so pertinaceous, as still to continue, we must have recourse to the following Apozeme, as the most promising Remedy.

Take of the *Decoction of Pearl Barley* seasoned with *Mace*, three Pints, or two Quarts; six Drachms, or an Ounce of the bitter Purging Salt; Syrup of *Marsh Mallows* three or four Ounces. Mix them for an Apozeme, to be taken hot, in an hour, an hour and half, or two hours, or thereabout, altho' the Patient should vomit some part of it.

In Hot Urine.

In which *Disease* the same *Apozeme* is available, whether it proceedeth from the sharpness of the Blood, or a *Venereal Gonorrhœa*.

In an Ischury.

And so likewise in an *Ischury*, or total Suppression of *Urine*; whether it happens without a *Stone*,

or without end, enough to stop the
Passages of Urin.

Yet if the Disease hath been of some days con-
tinuance, the Patient must presently bleed, and
plentifully. Next, inject a pretty sharp Clyster,
with Syrup of *Spina Cervina*, the Bitter. *Purging*
Salt, &c. During the Operation whereof, it will
be very useful to drink the aforesaid *Apozeme*,
or some Draughts of it. Especially, if a spoon-
ful of the following Mixture be taken before e-
very Draught.

Take *Fenil* and *Saxifrage Water*, of each an
Ounce and half, Salt of *Amber* a Drachm, *Tar-
tarum Vitriolatum* a Scruple, prepar'd *Millepedes*
two Drachms, Syrup of *Marsh-mallows* an Ounce.
Mix them.

In a Diabetes.

In which most dangerous Disease, if there be
need of some very gentle Evacuation, the said
Waters, or Salt, in regard either of them moves
very easily, and cools much, is of all others the
safest, if not the only Purge. With the help
whereof, in conjunction with the constant use
of *Chalybeate Waters*, of any sort, and also of
Hypnoticks *, I have restored some (but those
indeed Young) when near dying, unto perfect
Health.

* *And also of Hypnoticks.*] That is, sleeping Medicines:
very useful and necessary in this Disease, tho' the Patient
be faint and weak; because that Sleep stops all Evacuations
but Sweat.

In the Jaundies.

Bleeding likewise in this Disease is seldom to be omitted. Yea, to be repeated, if the Patient be somewhat more feverish.

Neither are Vomits of less use : both as they will the Stomach of its morbidick Load, and also sweep up the *Gall*, which stagnates in its own bladder : And should therefore be repeated at convenient Intervals, if there be need. Especially, if these and other Remedies, proving less successful, shall give cause to suspect there are some *Stones*, which by their Number or Bulk, stop the *Canale*, by which the *Gall* passes into the *Guts* : in which case we must persist with a prudent Resolution.

But in any sort of Jaundies, with Stones in the *Gall*, or without, the Purging Water or its Salt, very properly given in the following or other manner.

Take of *Pilula Ruffi* half a Drachm, *Rhubarb*, and *Volatile Salt of Urine*, of each half a Scruple, *Syrup of Wormwood* enough to make them into six *Pills*, to be taken going to bed. In the Morning following let the Patient drink this *spozeme*.

Take two Ounces of the Shavings of *Harts-mn.*; boil them in three Quarts of *Spring-water* two : Then add *Mace* and *Turmerick*, of each Drachm ; and having boil'd them a little, dissolve in the strain'd *Liquor* the *Bitter Purging Salt*

Salt and Syrup of Steel, of each an Ounce, for an Apozeme, to be drank as usually.

If the Physician sees it convenient, instead of the foremention'd Pills, he may give the following Draught.

Take an Ounce and half, or two Ounces of the *Tinctura Sacra*, an Ounce of Syrup of *Cyber* made with *Rhubarb**, *Tartarum Vitriolatum* the half a Scruple. Mix them for a Draught to be taken about six or seven a-clock in the Morning. And after two hours let the Patient drink the Apozeme before prescrib'd : And so repeat them every, or each other Day.

If Aloetick Medicines heat the Patient, the Infusion of *Rhubarb*, &c. may do better.

C H A P. V.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt, in Diseases of the Head. And first, in Madness.

IN Madness, besides Bleeding and repeated Vomits, it is likewise often necessary to use Cephalick Ointments, a Seton in the Neck, Blistering Plasters, especially laid on the Legs, Purges, and other Remedies.

To further the Operation of Purging Medicines,

* Syrup of *Cichory* made with *Rhubarb*.] A Compound Syrup in the London Dispensatory.

whether prepared with *Hellebore*, or o-
therwise, nothing can be more proper than the
Purging Water, or their *Salt*, given in this or c-
ontrary like manner.

Take the Leaves of *Bawm* or *Borage*, of each
a handful: Infuse them in two Quarts or five
pounds of boil'd *Spring water* while 'tis hot, and
let them stand in a Vessel well covered for half
an hour. Add to the strain'd Infusion an
ounce or ten Drachms of the *Bitter Purging Salt*,
and of Violets three Ounces; Mix them for
a posseme to be drunk by it self, or with any
convenient Purge instead of *Posset* drink. Or,
Take an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*:
Solve a Drachm in a Draught of *Snow-water*,
of any other *Chalybeate* kind; and let the Pa-
tient drink eight such draughts.

The same *Water* or *Salt* may likewise be very
well taken in the same manner, in the Inter-
val of other *Purgations*; especially in Summer.
It greatly allays the *Maniacal Turbulency* of
Humours and Spirits.

In the Head-ach.

in which Disease, and the rather if proceed-
ing from a *hot* Cause, or join'd with a *hot* Consti-
tution, there is nothing in the Art of *Phisick*
which I have found more effectual than the fol-
lowing, or such like method.

First, let a sufficient Quantity of Blood be
ta-

taken away from the Arm, or elsewhere, as shall seem most convenient.

Next, let a Vomit be given, or omitted, as the Patient's Strength, and other Circumstances shall direct: And then the following Medicines.

Take prepar'd *Scammony*, powder'd *Rhubarb*, and *Mercurius Dulcis*, of each ten, twelve, or fourteen Grains, Syrup of *Spina Cervina* enough to make them into five Pills, to be taken at four or five a-clock in the Morning, and let the Patient sleep upon it. After three hours, let him drink this *Apozeme*.

Take of *Spring-water* season'd with *Mac* three Pints or two Quarts, six Drachms or an Ounce of the *Bitter Purging Salt*, and Syrup of Violets two Ounces: mix and take them by convenient Draughts, and keep your self warm in the working.

Let the same *Apozeme* be repeated with the Pills now before prescrib'd, every third or fourth day; and on the days between by it self. And in like manner continu'd, if need be, for a Fortnight or three Weeks.

In the Megrim.

It is necessary also in this case, to begin with *Bleeding*; and the rather, if it proceeds from drinking over-much *Wine*: and first, by opening a Vein in the *Arm*.

Next, by *Cupping Glasses* applied with *Scari* fication

not only to the Shoulders, but to the
under part of the Head it self, being first shaved.
To which Part, as well in this Disease, as in the
Head-ach, and Inflammations of the Eyes, I common-
ly order them to be applied, rather than to any
other, and with better success. After Bleeding,
give the following Medicines.

Take of *Pilula Mastichina* || two Scruples, and
five Drops of Chymical Oil of *Majorane*: Mix,
and take them going to bed. On the next Mor-
ning drink this *Apozeme*.

Take Spring water season'd with *Mace*, a
Quart or three Pints, four Ounces of the Water
Sage of Virtue, of *Sweet Majorane* water two
ounces, and six Drachms of the *Bitter Purging
Root*: Mix, and take them in the usual manner.
Sometimes it may be useful to take a spoonful
of the following *Mixture* before every draught.

Take the Leaves of *Sweet Majorane* and *Sage
of Virtue*, of each two Drachms, *Gentian-Root*,
and the Species of *Hiera Picra*, of each two
Scruples, and four Ounces of *White-wine*. Di-
lute them twelve hours in a Bottle well stopped,

[Cupping-Glasses applied with Scirification.] This Ope-
ration, as it is commonly performed in England, is both
lightful and painful. But the Glasses being warmed with
a Lamp, instead of being filled with flaming Tow; and a
Lebem used (by Filliping) instead of a Launce, after the
German way; it is altogether as easie as bleeding at the Arm.
[*Pilula Mastichina*] A Compounded Pill in the London
Sensatory.

and then let the *Tincture* be strongly pressed out, and stand, till the muddy Parts being settled, it becomes clear.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Use of the Bitter Purging Salt in some other Diseases. And first, in Mother-Fits.

IN which case, after the more grievous Symptoms are allay'd by the use of *Opiates* *, ten or twelve Drachms, or two Ounces of the *Tinctura Sacra* (made with two parts of *White-wine*, and one part of *Hysterick Water* †) may be given, for the most part, with good success.

But if the Physician sees it convenient to give a more temperate Purge; that so often commended, in regard it works so gently, may be safely drunk: and with the greater Benefit, if instead of *Maced Water* the *Purging Salt* be dissolved either in the *Spaw water*, or that of *Bawm*.

In the Wandring Gout.

Which is commonly, but erroneously, called a *Rheumatism*. For that this falls upon the Mus-

* *By the use of Opiates.*] The English Reader is here admonished to be very wary in meddling with this sort of Medicines, whether liquid or solid. A Dose containing a Grain or a Grain and half of *Opium*, not to be exceeded, without special Occasion and Direction. † *Hysterick Water.*] A Compounded Water in the London Dispensatory.

affectional Parts, that only on the Joints. 'Tis a stubborn Disease, and often requires a good Set of Remedies.

Begin with *Bleeding*, and repeat it every, or each other day, to the fourth, or if need be, to the fifth or sixth time.

After the first or second *Bleeding*, I find a *Vomiting* to be, oftentimes, of very great use. For so long as the *Stomach* is foul, it sends new Matter every day to the *Blood* and *Joints* to feed the Disease.

But for *Purges*, and those of the stronger sort, albeit they are sometimes for a few days to be *deferr'd*: yet are hardly ever to be omitted. One good *Purge*, commonly more prevailing against this Disease than three or four *Bleedings*.

Now the Operation of these *Purges*, in regard the Patient is seldom without some Fever †, is much more gently performed, and without putting the Humours into a Ferment, with the help of the *Purging Waters*, or their Salt; which may be taken with them in the following manner.

* One good *Purge* prevailing more than three or four *Bleedings*.] And besides the speeding of the Cure, the ill Effects which sometimes follow upon the taking away so great a Quantity of Blood, are avoided. † The Patient seldom without some Fever.] Which may give occasion to some, even Physicians, to suspect the use of strong *Purges* in this Case. But his Fever is not a *Febris Synochus*, that is, the ordinary sort of continual Fever; much less with any malignant Properties, which should forbid the Purgation here prescribed.

Take of the Powder of *Rosinous Jalap* half a Drachm, six Grains of prepar'd *Scammony*, *Camomel* half a Scruple, Syrup of *Spina Cervina* enough to make a *Bolus*, to be taken at five a-clock in the Morning, and let the Patient sleep upon it. And after three hours drink this *Apozeme*.

Take an ounce and half of *Pearl Barley*, three ounces of *Corins*: Boil them in Spring-water enough, to a Quart and half a Pint, or three Pint's and half; adding towards the end of the boiling, half a Drachm of *Mace*. In the strained Liquor, dissolve an ounce of the bitter *Purging Salt*, and half an ounce, an ounce, or an ounce and half of the best *Manna*, for an *Apozeme*.

If the Patient is not easily wrought upon, and other *Coindicants* also shall direct it, let him take six Drachms or an ounce of Syrup of *Spina Cervina* in the first draught: And let the *Bolus* be repeated with this or the like *Apozeme*, every other, or third, or fourth day, as shall seem best to the Physician, or with longer Intervals, till the Patient is perfectly recover'd.

In the Beginning and Increase of the *Disease*, every, or at least each other Night, and constantly after *Purgation*, a convenient Opiate * is to be given, whereby to hinder the Effervescence of the Humours, and their renewed Influx upon the *Joints*.

When, either because the *Fever* is somewhat

* *A Convenient Opiate.*] Here the English Reader is again admonished, as a little before in this Chapter.

high,

igh, or the Patient weak, Purgation is for some time to be deferr'd: Blistring Plaisters being applied about four Inches above or below the diseas'd Joints, give great Relief. And sometimes the serous Part of the Blood is so very hot and unbridl'd, as to baffle all the aforesaid Remedies, till by the help of *Blisters* it is in some measure separated from the *red*, which is the softer part of the *Blood*.

In this *Disease*, those *Medicines* which provoke *Sweat*, altho' plentifully, yet hardly do any good. But *Diureticks* are taken with advantage: for which reason also Apozemes impregnated, as aforesaid, with the *Purging Salt*, are the more convenient; as working both by *Stool* and *Urine* at the same time.

While the Patient is under cure, let him abstain from *Wine* and *winy Liquors*, and all *Malt Drinks* unboiled. Fresh and clarify'd, that is, boil'd *Whey* is of all other Drinks, the most excellent * †.

In

* *Whey, of all other Drinks, the most excellent.*] That is, in this case. For what can better subdue the Acrimony of the serous Blood, than to dilute it with so soft a Liquor of its own kind? † Whereas this Disease as usually managed, will hold and vex the Patients for six Weeks or two Months, and sometimes longer: The Author has assur'd me, that by the Method he hath here prescrib'd, he has commonly set them up in a Fortnight or three Weeks at the most; and that some of them have been perfectly recover'd in a VVeek or ten Days: especially upon giving, after once or twice Bleeding, a good brisk Vomit, where there hath been great occasion for it.

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In some sorts of Itch.

Not that which is contagious or catching, but bred of the *Scurvy*; spreading sometimes all over the Body, sometimes confined to the *Pu-denda*, or some other certain Parts. In both which Cases I have often found the last prescribed *Apozeme*, repeated with or without other Purgers, to be effectual; and have blessed some with the Pleasure of *Ease*, after they have been^o tortured and tir'd out with perpetual scratching. Especially if they have been constantly kept to a good quantity of the *Chalybeate* Waters, instead of all other Drink.

The same *Apozeme* after the *Small Pox* are shell'd off, is very properly us'd.

And with most Purges in the room of Posset-drink.

To conclude, those who upon a long Journey, and chiefly in Summer, are wont to be *cōsitive*; by two or three Drachms of this *Salt* taken in a draught or two of Spring-water, will hereby keep themselves soluble, and very cool.

C H A P. VII.

Of the Mis-use of the Bitter Waters, and of their Salt.

IT behoves a Physician, not only to shew the use of Remedies, but also to caution the Reader

(81)
or to beware of their *Mis-use*; whereby is done
threefold Injury, to the Patient, the Physician
and the Medicine it self.

This therefore, the Virtues whereof I have
now enumerated, is in some *Diseases* by no means
to be prescribed: And in some others, regard is
to be had to the Causes and the Symptoms.

In all *Drop-sies* whatsoever it doth hurt: Be-
cause that here the native Heat is very languid,
and that stock of Spirits which is seated in the
Grumous part of the Blood, very poor. Where
likewise the use, even of a Liquid Diet, hastens
the float of the *Serum* of the Blood, upon the Parts
which lie already, as it were, under Water.

As also in a *continual Fever*, even the ordinary
kind. Wherein, tho' the Cause is sometimes, by
little and little, to be purged off: yet is this to
be done, rather with such *Medicines* as are mo-
derately *Hot*, as the *Decoctum amarum*, *Pilula*
Ruffi, and the like *; and by which, the Con-
coction of the Humours is promoted at the same
time. And therefore, whatsoever may prove a

* *The Decoctum Amarum*, *Pilula Ruffi*, and the like]
Dispensatory Medicines; which the Author allows to be
sometimes given in a continual Fever: and he speaks to Phy-
sicians. But the English Reader is to take the same care,
not to be over-busie with Purges in a Fever, as not with
Opiates in any Case. Because that in many Fevers, no
sort of Purge can be safely given. And if given at the be-
ginning of a Fever (as is sometimes unwarily done, before
the Fever apparently shews it self) it commonly proves fatal
to the Patient.

hin-

hinderance herein, by over-cooling, we must beware of it.

Neither is it any way serviceable in an *Ague*.

Nor to Girls in the *Green sickness*. Whose Feverish Heats are kindled from too much *Acidity*, some where or other in their Humours, which are to be sweetned with more potent *Alkalies*.

'Tis also to be denied to those that spit Blood. Left by its great and penetrating subtilty it should open the Mouths of the *Arteries*.

And in the *Disease* call'd *Cholera Morbus*. Wherein those sudden *Evacuations* which are made, are follow'd with a great sinking of the Spirits. Which kind of *Motions* made by *Nature*, while she trips with over-much haste, are rather to be quieted with *Cordials* and *Opiates**, given now and then. But after the force of the *Disease* is broken, if there be need of any farther *Evacuation*, and the Patient be of a *Bilious Constitution*, whether *Native* or *Adventitious*, he may then drink the said *Salt* to good purpose.

'Tis also to be forborn in a *Palse*: Left the *Muscles*, which are already destitute of their *Native Heat* and *Vigour*, should thereby be more weakned. Yet if the *Disease* is bred of a *Hot*

* To be quieted with *Cordials* and *Opiates*.] The English Reader is again admonished to use the same Caution, with respect to all sorts of *Opiates*, as in the foregoing Chapter. And the rather here, because in a *Disease* which often happens unto young Children.

Cause,

Cause, as Wine, or any Winy Liquor; I have Prescrib'd it both safely, and with Effect.

• 'Tis not to be allow'd to *Women with Child*, but with Circumspection.

Nor in a Suppression of Urine, before it appears, all things being well weighed, that it depends neither upon an *Ulcer* in the Bladder, nor a *Stone* too big to pass; in either of which Cases, the Patient is to abstain from all Diureticks. But otherwise I have often given this Medicine with very good Success; that is to say, in bringing away the Urine, and Stones with it, not of the least size.

F I N I S.